

REMARKS

I Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-3 are currently pending. Claims 4-6, and 8-11 are retained as withdrawn claims. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended for clarity. Support for the amended claims can be found throughout the specification for example in the original claims. No new matter is added.

II Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of US 6,676,635. An obviousness-type double patenting rejection may be overcome by the filing of a Terminal Disclaimer. Applicant has filed a Terminal Disclaimer herewith, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

III Request for Rejoinder

Applicant has retained Claims 4-6 and 8-11 as withdrawn claims drawn to non-elected species, but which ultimately depend from one of the elected claims. Rejoinder of these non-elected claims upon allowance of the elected claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections are respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited. If any points remain that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-given telephone number.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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